

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NEW DE 11237 201513Z

42

ACTION NEA-07

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 H-01 NSC-05 NSCE-00 PRS-01 /029 W

----- 001044

R 201104Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 725

INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL MADRAS

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 11237

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IN

SUBJECT: DINNER ACCEPTANCE BY MRS. GANDHI

AMBASSADOR INVITED PM GANDHI TO SMALL DINNER PARTY FOR CONG CEDERBERG AUGUST 24 AND, WE CONFESS TO OUR SURPRISE, SHE HAS ACCEPTED. TO OUR KNOWLEDGE, THIS IS FIRST TIME MRS. GANDHI HAS ACCEPTED SUCH AN INVITATION TO ROOSEVELT HOUSE IN LAST SIX YEARS AND OUR IMPRESSION IS THAT IT MAY BE THE ONLY TIME SHE HAS ACCEPTED A DINNER INVITATION TO SUCH A SMALL PRIVATE FUNCTION IN ANY EMBASSY IN RECENT YEARS (ALTHOUGH SHE HAS, OF COURSE, ATTENDED LARGE OFFICIAL FUNCTIONS FOR VISITING HEADS OF GOVERNMENT AND STATE). WE DO NOT HAVE ANY EXPECTATION THAT THE DINNER WILL PRODUCE MUCH SUBSTANTIVE COMMENT BY THE PM, BUT WE CANNOT HELP BUT BE STRUCK BY THE SYMBOLIC IMPACT. WE DO NOT OURSELVES PLAN ANY PUBLICITY ABOUT THE DINNER, AND INDEED, ARE TAKING CARE TO AVOID ANY. THE PM'S DAILY SCHEDULE, HOWEVER, IS AVAILABLE TO A SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF PEOPLE AT HIGH LEVELS OF THE GOI AND THEY WILL NOTE HER ATTENDANCE WE ARE SURE.

SAXBE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INVITATIONS, SOCIAL RECEPTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ellisoob
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975NEWDE11237
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750288-0262
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750835/aaaabeun.tel
Line Count: 49
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 1
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ellisoob
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 AUG 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <25 NOV 2003 by ellisoob>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DINNER ACCEPTANCE BY MRS. GANDHI AMBASSADOR INVITED PM GANDHI TO SMALL DINNER PARTY FOR CONG
TAGS: PFOR, IN, (GANDHI, INDIRA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006